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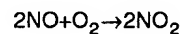
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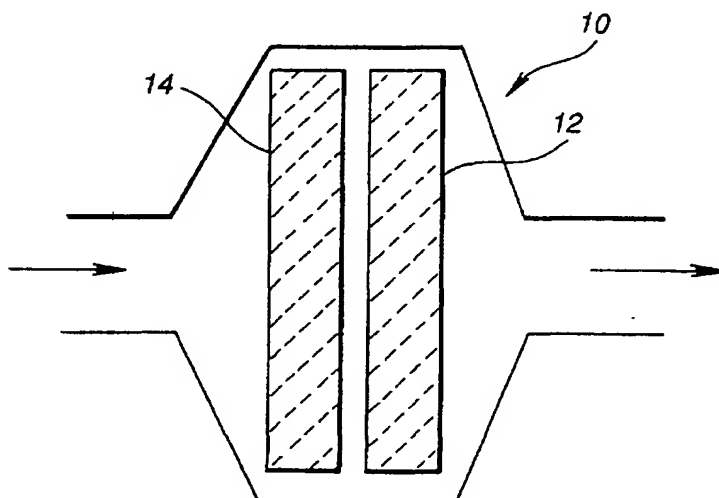
(54) **Device for purifying oxygen rich exhaust gas**

(57) This device (catalytic converter) includes a NO_x-adsorbing-and-reducing catalyst that is capable of adsorbing a NO_x and accelerating a reduction of the adsorbed NO_x into N₂, within a NO₂-forming temperature range where a reaction represented by the following formula proceeds,



wherein, within the NO₂-forming temperature range, the concentration of hydrocarbons and/or carbon monoxide of the exhaust gas is varied at an inlet of the NO_x-adsorbing-and-reducing catalyst, such that the adsorbed NO_x is selectively reduced by the hydrocarbons and/or carbon monoxide into N₂.

FIG.1





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 18 January 2002 | Examiner Sideris, M |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS | | T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document | |

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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